

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

VETERAN'S PROSTATE CANCER TREATMENT AND RESEARCH ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in favor of H.R. 6092, the Veteran's Prostate Cancer Research and Treatment Act. This bill will support our Nation's heroes who are diagnosed with prostate cancer.

September is recognized as National Prostate Health Month, or Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. The timing could not be better to advance the Veteran's Prostate Cancer Research and Treatment Act from the House floor.

Prostate cancer is the number one cancer diagnosed at the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and this bill will improve the care our veterans receive every step of the way. Whether it be at an early screening, the difficult moment a veteran receives a prostate cancer diagnosis, during treatment, during recovery, or while receiving end of life care, our veterans deserve the best.

The VA is already a notable leader in prostate cancer research and the goal of this legislation is to help the agency build on its success. A clearly defined national clinical pathway for the treatment of prostate cancer is needed because 500,000 veterans are being treated for it in the VHA today. 16,000 veterans are diagnosed with prostate cancer annually—nearly 43 each day.

The most common cancer diagnosed in the VA health system should be met with the most recent clinical data, national expertise, and state-of-the-art technology. Another element of my bill is the creation of a national prostate cancer registry. Cancer registries are important because they inform research and lead to improved treatment protocol, and thus, outcomes. The creation of a registry supports the goals of the clinical pathway and allows for updates and improvements as researchers learn more about the disease.

I thank my colleague Mr. CUNNINGHAM for working with me as the democratic lead on this bill. I encourage all of my colleagues to support the Veteran's Prostate Cancer Research and Treatment Act today so that the VA may better support our veterans' health moving forward.

COMMENDING THE LIFE AND WORK OF REVEREND LEON FINNEY, JR.

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and commemorate the life of Reverend

Leon Finney, Jr., who stood at the forefront of advancing the cause of justice in Chicago and throughout the nation.

A spiritual mentor of mine at McCormick Theological Seminary, where he founded the African American Leadership Program, which was responsible for the training of innumerable African American Pastors in receiving their master's degrees. Rev. Finney's work in Chicago's spiritual, educational, and civil rights communities was deeply intertwined and catalyzed positive change for the most vulnerable members of our society.

Rev. Finney was an organizer's organizer. Shortly after serving his country in the Marine Corps, he would join the Woodlawn Organization, a community group in Chicago's Woodlawn neighborhood where Rev. Finney worked tirelessly to revitalize Woodlawn after the neighborhood was nearly decimated in the 1960s and 1970s. Rev. Finney's activism would open the eyes of those across Chicago and the United States to what is really possible when communities come together. The arc of Rev. Finney's legacy is long and stretches from Congressman Ralph H. Metcalfe, Jr., to Reverend Jessie L. Jackson, Sr., from Mayor Harold Washington all the way to former President Barack Obama.

A deeply spiritual man with an unparalleled understanding of how faith could help uplift entire communities, Rev. Finney served as the pastor of three churches, and was the founder of the Christ Apostolic Church, which would later merge with the Metropolitan Apostolic Community Church where Rev. Finney continued to serve the people of Chicago's South Side as a senior pastor. Rev. Finney's sense of justice was also evident throughout his career in public service, beginning with his three decades of service on Chicago's city planning commission, followed by a chairmanship of Chicago State University's board of trustees, and continuing as a board member of the Chicago Housing Authority for five years thereafter. His strong commitments to equity and community empowerment enabled these organizations to better serve the people of Chicago for years to come.

Madam Speaker, I along with countless others, are in deep mourning due to Rev. Finney's transition, but we all remain committed to furthering his life's pursuit. My condolences are extended to his immediate family, his church, and to his many friends. His legacy lives on.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GALE SAYERS

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gale Sayers, who passed away this week. A native Kansan, Gale was a revered athlete in the Sunflower State.

Known as the Kansas Comet, Gale played football at the University of Kansas for three years before getting selected by the Chicago Bears in the 1965 NFL draft. He went on to become the youngest professional football player ever inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Though Gale's career was cut short after a knee injury, he was still considered a renowned player for many years and inspired young athletes across the country. Many will remember his accomplishments on the field, but he also contributed to the community in other ways. At KU, Gale joined the student march for fair housing. Most notably, Gale spoke up about the pattern of head trauma football players face over time and its long-term consequences, a topic that was still relatively unknown and unstudied.

Madam Speaker, I am deeply grateful for Gale's contributions and I know that even in his death, he will continue to be remembered for generations. I offer my heartfelt condolences to Gale's family and friends.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JORGE NUÑEZ

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jorge Nuñez, a tireless fighter for peace and social justice.

In the 1980s, Jorge made the difficult decision to immigrate to the United States in order to flee the terrible violence that had fallen on his beloved countrymen and women in El Salvador. Although he was new to this country, he continued to dedicate his life mission to fight for the oppressed and the dignity of all human beings.

If you ask Angelenos about Jorge Nuñez, they will tell you he is known for his social service work. He started his advocacy efforts as a community organizer in Los Angeles with the Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund (SALEF), where he promoted the vote of Salvadorans and Latinos. He later became a respected staff member for State Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez, and subsequently completed his career as Assistant to the President of the State Senate, Kevin De León, and as Board Member Emeritus of SALEF.

Regardless of his titles, Jorge devoted himself to working tirelessly for the rights of immigrants and their families, including TPS holders, day laborers and braceros. He never said no, and his desire to help was always present, even in his last days.

Jorge's humility and commitment to his values were his finest characteristics. His kindness and sense of humor were a couple of the reasons he was so well-liked and respected in all social circles.

Jorge leaves behind a beautiful family, his wife Sonia, and four children, Damaris, Edwin, Jorge and Marvin.

● This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Madam Speaker, Jorge Nuñez left us a priceless legacy to honor, to continue to build a better world. With that, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering and celebrating the life of Jorge Nuñez.

HONORING THE CAREER OF LEROY JACKSON

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the career of LeRoy Jackson who is retiring from his position as City Manager of Torrance, California at the end of September 2020. LeRoy has served the city of Torrance for 54 years and is one of the longest serving city managers in the state of California and the country. I had the honor of working with LeRoy when I served on the Torrance City Council. Torrance is a better place to live, work and play because of LeRoy's distinguished service.

LeRoy is a native Californian who has lived in Torrance since 1967 and graduated from California State University, Long Beach with a degree in Political Science and Public Administration. He first started his career serving Torrance in 1966 as a Personnel Analyst. After serving in various positions on the City Manager's staff, he was appointed as the city's fourth City Manager in 1983 and has spent 37 years serving in that position.

As City Manager he helps lead a city of over 146,000 people and oversees ten departments with over 2,000 employees and a budget exceeding \$320 million. In his five decades serving Torrance, Leroy has helped the city grow and thrive through multiple recessions and served alongside numerous mayors, council members and department heads.

Torrance Mayor Patrick Furey stated that LeRoy's "thoughtful leadership, fiscal foresight and dynamic approach to city planning have helped groom our City's strong executive staff." Former Mayor Frank Scotto said, "the key to his longevity is that he's exceptionally good at seeing the best things in other people and getting good people around him." LeRoy's management style has helped the city succeed throughout the decades he has served Torrance.

LeRoy is confident that the organization he has helped create will continue to serve Torrance well. I would like to thank LeRoy for his incredible public service, and wish him, his wife Connie and their family all the best.

HONORING IVETTE DOMINGUEZ DRAWE, OWNER AND PRESIDENT OF ALPINE BUICK GMC

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the accomplishments of Ms. Ivette Dominguez Drawe who will be honored by The Chamber of Northwest Douglas County as a "Woman Who Soars."

Ms. Dominguez Drawe is an outstanding businesswoman. She is one of just 13 His-

panic female car dealership owners among thousands of General Motors dealerships nationwide. Her first location, opened in Denver in 2007, consistently outperforms any other Buick GMC dealership in Denver.

In 2017 and 2018, Ivette acquired struggling dealerships in Illinois and quickly turned them into thriving, profitable businesses. She purchased Alpine Buick GMC South in late 2018 and Post Oak Toyota in late 2019. In Summer 2020, she will officially open Alpine Buick GMC's hallmark location in Douglas County, Colorado.

Ivette currently serves on the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce Board, on the Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver Board, and is immediate past chair of GM's Minority Development Dealership Council. She also supports local women and families through her dealership's Alpine Cares program, which grants up to \$15,000 per year to organizations such as the Colorado Ovarian Cancer Alliance and is a sponsor of Habitat for Humanity annual builds. Ivette and Alpine Buick GMC are also longtime supporters of Children's Hospital Colorado.

A tireless volunteer, advocate, and community supporter, I can think of few others more deserving of this honor and I congratulate Ms. Dominguez Drawe for being recognized as a "Woman Who Soars."

RECOGNIZING HYDROCEPHALUS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LLOYD DOGGETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hydrocephalus Awareness Month. Every September patients, caregivers and their families come together throughout the nation in support of the more than 1,000,000 people of all ages living with hydrocephalus in the United States. As co-chair of the Congressional Pediatric and Adult Hydrocephalus Caucus, I believe Congress has an important role to play in both raising awareness of this condition, as well as crafting policies that result in better treatments and potentially a cure. I urge my colleagues to join the caucus to learn more about this devastating condition.

Anyone can develop hydrocephalus, an abnormal accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid in the brain, at any time. This can include premature babies, active duty service members, veterans, and seniors. Individuals can also be born with hydrocephalus, develop it as part of the aging process, or acquire it as a result of infections, brain tumors or traumatic brain injuries, among other causes. The only present treatment for this condition is brain surgery.

From children to veterans, the prevalence of this condition is reflected in my own district. The physicians and staff at the Children's Hospital of San Antonio perform the brain surgeries necessary to treat many of the one in 770 babies across the country who develop hydrocephalus per year. Nationwide, these cases alone cost the U.S. health care system \$2 billion per year. Veterans and active military personnel, such as those stationed at Joint Base San Antonio, are also disproportionately affected. Medical researchers

believe that two-thirds of our nation's current and former military service members suffering from moderate to severe traumatic brain injuries are at risk of developing hydrocephalus.

In the midst of this pandemic, it is now more important than ever to improve the federal government's partnership with the hydrocephalus community. Many individuals with hydrocephalus live with other serious medical comorbidities, putting them at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. We must do all we can to help patients, health care professionals and families as they struggle to maintain and improve quality of life during these challenging times.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Hydrocephalus Awareness Month and the 1 million Americans living with hydrocephalus by joining the Congressional Pediatric and Hydrocephalus Caucus.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEFEAT OF ABOLISHING THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, in September 1969, Senator Birch Bayh, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments, introduced a constitutional amendment to abolish the Electoral College. The amendment passed with overwhelming bipartisan support in the House and with support from President Richard Nixon. But on this day 50 years ago, the amendment was blocked by a filibuster in the Senate.

The author of two successful and important constitutional amendments (the 25th and 26th), Senator Bayh was an eloquent and learned champion of sweeping institutional reform to make sure that the Constitution safeguards democratic principles rather than antiquated structures rooted in an undemocratic past. At this moment of profound constitutional stress and recurring global and domestic threats to democratic values and practices, we should remember the Senator's passionate commitment to building democratic self-government that serves as an instrument of the common good. Senator Bayh recognized that, in order to make sure that all votes count in our presidential elections and all votes count equally, it will be necessary to abolish the electoral college—or at least transform it through the National Popular Vote interstate agreement. I was honored to work with Senator Bayh, who was a great gentleman and patriot, during my time as a State Senator and he definitely helped us to make Maryland the first state to pass the National Popular Vote Agreement.

Madam Speaker, I wish to include in the RECORD a speech by New York Times Editorial Board Member Jesse Wegman for the annual Birch Bayh Lecture given at University of Indiana McKinney School of Law in honor of Senator Bayh's historic efforts towards electoral reform and in recognition of the melancholy day of defeat of the popular vote in the Senate on September 29, 1969.